

Food of 50 young Egrets that was disgorged by them at the nests immediately after being fed, running over a period of four weeks. The total of the 50 meals follows: 297 small frogs, 49 small snakes, mostly the Water Moccasin, 61 young fish, suckers, not edible, 176 crayfish.

Food of fifty meals of young White Ibis: 352 cut-worms, 308 grasshoppers, 602 crayfish, 42 small moccasins.

Food of fifty meals of Young, Little Blue Herons: 1900 grasshoppers, 37 small frogs, 149 cut-worms, 8 lizards, 142 small crayfish.

Food of fifty meals of young Louisiana Herons: 2876 grasshoppers, 8 small frogs, 17 cut-worms, 6 lizards, 67 small crayfish.

Food of fifty meals of young Snowy Egrets: 120 small suckers, 762 grasshoppers, 91 cut-worms, 2 small lizards, 29 small crayfish, 7 small moccasins.

Food of fifty meals of young Water Turkeys. All contained fish, mostly the suckers, pickerel and a few small catfish, none of which are much used for food fish.

Food of fifty young Night Herons: 60 crayfish, 610 small catfish, 31 small pickerel, 79 dragon flies.

A ROBIN'S ROOST.

BY A. J. STOVER.

At Northfield, Ohio, east of the car line is a strip of woods and swamp, in this is a 5 acre piece of land which had once been cleared then neglected, and is now covered with a dense growth of dog-wood, oak, sassafras, wild cherry, chestnut, shumach, etc., about 15 to 20 feet in height. This is protected on the north and east by woods and on the south by a tamarack swamp, the west is open. This low protected place is where the robins roost.

Scattered about this region are numerous bog holes, covered with huckle, alder, and elder berry bushes which afford an abundance of food during late summer and autumn.

Soon after the nesting season small groups of robins may

be found in the roost at night, this year I found them as early as the 14th of June, last year they were somewhat later. The first are apparently family groups and have little to do with each other, each group acting independently of the rest. From now on the flock increases rapidly and by the middle of July several hundred spend the night at the roost, separating during the day, later when the berries ripen they gather in flocks at the feeding ground flying to and from the roost in a body. It is at this time that the flock increases most rapidly usually reaching its height about the middle of August, although this year it did not do so until the middle of September, possibly, because the drought killed most of the berries.

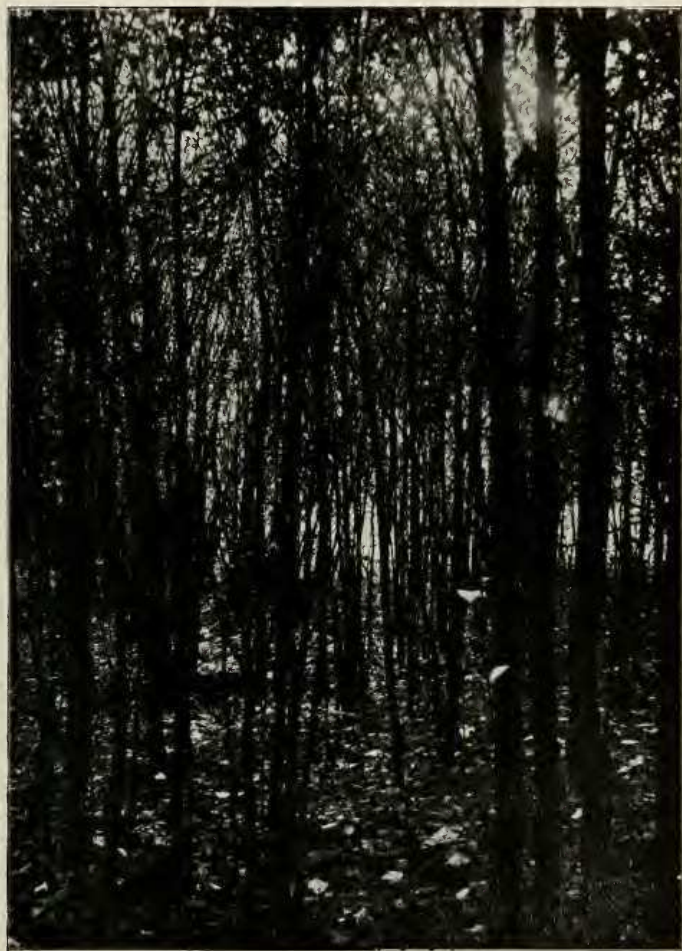
The robins begin coming in about half an hour before sunset, the first arrivals alighting in a number of dead trees about the edge of the roost where they await the others or until it becomes darker when they join an incoming flock and fly to the roost. The old birds are the first to arrive and are cautious, the young come later and take their places heedlessly, frequently alighting within a foot of a person standing in the roosting ground.

As the sun sinks large flocks fly in, I have seen as many as 145 in the air at one time.

August 27, 1909. (5:40 p. m.) 16—4—^o—1—1—4—8—
(5:45) 1—1—5—18—9—145—124—(5:52) 35—40—8—
35—10—37—4—20—40—42—10—30—4—(6:00) 42—8—5—
—5—1—3—6—(6:05)—11—1—1—1—4—1—17—1—(6:40)
4. Total, 170 from the west.

Sept 20, 1910. (4:48) 8—(4:50) 4—4—(5:04) 5—5—22—
—21—11—1—2—8—17—1—1—6—(5:15) 11—3—2—1—4—
—4—23—35—50—31—4—25—14—21—7—4—25—7—3—32—
—(5:25) 24—30—22—33—1—(5:30) 16—2—2—23—7—2—
—4—2—1—(5:35) 3—6—5—1—1. Total 607 from the north, 100 from the west, many from the east and south, there are probably over 1000 robins roosting there this year.

I have noticed that they come in earlier on cloudy days than on clear days.



Interior of the Robin roosting place. Northfield, Ohio.
(Photo by A. J. Stover.)